

# Crownsville Hospital Center

## 2009 Drinking Water Quality Report



### Important Information about your Drinking Water:

#### Special points of interest:

- The water at Crownsville Hospital Center was tested for over 120 different compounds
- The Crownsville drinking water consistently met both Federal and State requirements
- Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

**W**e're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2009. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day.

Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Last year more than 800 tests for over 120 compounds were conducted on the water at Crownsville Hospital Center. Maryland Environmental Service, an Agency of the State of Maryland, operates the

water treatment facility and prepared this report. We want you to understand the efforts made to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. We're please to report that your drinking water consistently met both Federal and State requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Jay Janney at 410-729-8350 or [jjann@menv.com](mailto:jjann@menv.com)

**T**he water for Crownsville Hospital Center comes from four wells in the Magothy formation. After the water is pumped out of the wells, we aerate, settle and filter the water to remove and reduce contaminants. The water then passes through ion exchange units to remove radium and we finally add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants. The Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water.

*We want everyone to be informed about their water.*

**S**ome people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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## Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the regulated drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past several years. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in

the table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2009. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Crownsville Hospital Center Treated Water Quality Report 2009				
Definitions				
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.			
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.			
Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.			
ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter				
ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter				
pCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)				
Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminants
Regulated at the Treatment Plant - Marbury Drive, NE of Farm Road - Plant I.D. 01				
Nickel (2008 Testing)	100 ppb	22 ppb	100 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (2007 Testing)	2000 ppb	7 ppb	2000 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (2008 Testing)	100 ppb	2 ppb	100 ppb	Discharge from steel & pulp mills
Combined Radium (226 & 228)	5 pCi/l	1.6 pCi/	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (EPA sample)	5 pCi/l	1 pCi/ *	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 (EPA sample)	5 pCi/l	0.6 pCi/ *	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	15 pCi/l	2.4 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Regulated at the Distribution				
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (2007 Testing)	60 ppb	8.25 ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2007 Testing)	80 ppb	40.85 ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Regulated at the Consumer's Tap				
Copper (2008 Testing)	1300 ppb (action level)	90th percentile = 61 ppb	1300 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems
Lead (2008 Testing)	15 ppb (action level)	90th percentile = 2 ppb	0 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems

\* EPA collected and analyzed a radiological sample from the treatment plant in 2009

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

**RADON:** We constantly monitor the water supply for various constituents. We have detected radon in the water supply on a sample collected in September 2009. At this time, there is no Federal Regulation for radon levels in drinking water. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Exposure to air transmitted radon over a long period of time may cause adverse health effects. The radon result of the March 31, 2009 sample was 252.8 pCi/l and the September sample was 31.1 pCi/l. For additional information call the EPA radon hotline at 1-800-SOS-RADON